



MELANIE WILLIAMS

FOR CONGRESS

Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District · 2026

PRESS PACKET

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MEDIA CONTACT

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Candidate Biography

Melanie Williams is a progressive Democratic candidate running for U.S. Representative in Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District. A peace, justice, and human rights organizer with deep roots in the Omaha community, Melanie brings decades of grassroots advocacy experience to this race.

Born in Minneapolis and raised in Omaha from the age of nine — with a decade spent in Des Moines along the way — Melanie understands the Midwest because she has lived it. She is not a career politician. She is an organizer, an advocate, and a leader who has spent years taking on the systems that shape people's daily lives.

In 2010, after her own family was seriously harmed by failures in state competency and due process protections, Melanie founded the Family Advocacy Movement. She stood alongside Nebraska families navigating complex institutions, fighting for dignity, fairness, and accountability. That experience didn't just inform her perspective — it forged her resolve.

Melanie believes every person deserves Medicare for All, livable wages, and a government that answers to working people — not corporate interests. She believes in putting people and planet ahead of profits. Her campaign accepts no corporate PAC money, no AIPAC money — only grassroots donations from Nebraskans.

Fast Facts

Full Name	Melanie Williams
Office	U.S. House of Representatives, NE-02
Party	Democratic (Democratic Socialist)
Primary	May 12, 2026 (open to independent voters)
General	November 3, 2026
Hometown	Omaha, Nebraska
Background	Peace, justice & human rights organizer; founder, Family Advocacy Movement (2010)
Funding	Grassroots only — no corporate PACs, no AIPAC money
Website	melaniewilliamsforcongress.com
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Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District

Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District covers the greater Omaha metropolitan area, including all of Douglas County, Saunders County, and parts of western Sarpy County. It is one of the most competitive congressional districts in the country — and one of only two congressional districts outside of Maine that allocates its Electoral College vote separately from the statewide result.

Geography	Douglas County, Saunders County, parts of western Sarpy County
Major City	Omaha, Nebraska
Cook Rating	D+3 (as of 2026 cycle)
2024 Result	Kamala Harris carried NE-02
2020 Result	Joe Biden carried NE-02
2008 Result	Barack Obama carried NE-02
Open Seat	Rep. Don Bacon not seeking re-election in 2026
Military	Home to Offutt Air Force Base — veteran issues are central
Independents	May vote in the Democratic primary — just request a Democratic ballot

Key Issues & Policy Positions

Melanie Williams campaigns on a bold, people-first progressive platform. Below are her core policy priorities:

Healthcare & Economic Justice

- **Medicare for All.** Support a single-payer Medicare for All system covering medical, dental, vision, and mental health care for every American — eliminating premiums, deductibles, and co-pays.
- **Living Wage.** Raise the federal minimum wage to \$20 per hour, indexed to inflation.
- **Cancel Student Debt.** Cancel student debt and make public colleges & universities, trade schools, and HBCUs tuition-free.
- **Expand Social Security.** Expand — not cut — Social Security benefits; lift the payroll tax cap so the wealthy pay in at the same rate as everyone else.
- **Free Childcare.** Universal, free pre-K and subsidized childcare for all families.

Climate & Labor

- **Green New Deal.** Champion a Green New Deal that creates millions of union jobs in renewable energy and delivers environmental justice to frontline communities.

- **Union Rights.** Support the PRO Act to make it easier for workers to organize; abolish right-to-work laws.
- **Tax the Wealthy.** Mandate corporations and billionaires pay their fair share through a wealth tax on fortunes over \$10 million.

Civil Rights & Justice

- **Reproductive Rights.** Codify Roe v. Wade into federal law; protect access to contraception and reproductive healthcare with no exceptions.
- **LGBTQ+ Equality.** Enact the Equality Act; protect transgender youth from discriminatory legislation.
- **Police Accountability.** End qualified immunity; establish civilian police oversight; ban chokeholds and no-knock raids.
- **End Mass Incarceration.** End mandatory minimums; decriminalize and expunge marijuana convictions; abolish private prisons.
- **Reparations.** Support reparations for descendants of enslaved people as a moral imperative.

Democracy, Foreign Policy & Immigration

- **Money Out of Politics.** Overturn Citizens United; establish public financing of elections; lifetime ban on members of Congress becoming lobbyists and from trading stocks.
- **Immigration Justice.** Support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants; end family detention; protect DACA.
- **Free Palestine.** Support Palestinian sovereignty, end genocide, an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, and an end to U.S. military aid that violates international law.
- **No Illegal Wars.** Oppose any military action against Iran or any nation without direct threat to our nation and a formal declaration of war from Congress.
- **Abolish ICE.** Support abolishing ICE and replacing it with a humane, accountable immigration enforcement system.
- **Housing as a Right.** Expand housing as a human right — invest in public housing, establish rent stabilization, expand tenant rights, crack down on corporate landlords, and subsidize housing in gentrified communities for those displaced.

Why Nebraska's 2nd District — Why Now

With Representative Don Bacon not seeking re-election, Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District presents a historic opportunity. This is an open seat in one of the most genuinely competitive districts in the nation — a district that has voted for Democratic presidential candidates three times in the last two decades, and that the Cook Political Report currently rates D+3.

Melanie Williams is running because this district's working families deserve a representative who answers to them, not to corporate donors. While other candidates court PAC money and hedge their positions, Melanie offers a clear, unapologetic progressive vision — and a track record of organizing and fighting for families in Nebraska's most difficult systems.

Her campaign is powered entirely by grassroots donations. That independence is not incidental — it is the foundation of her candidacy.

Quotes from the Candidate

“This campaign is powered by people — not corporate PACs, not AIPAC. Just neighbors helping neighbors win. That’s what democracy is supposed to look like.”

— **Melanie Williams**

“After my own family was harmed by failures in the system, I didn’t step back — I stepped forward and founded the Family Advocacy Movement. Every family deserves due process, dignity, and the right to challenge state power when institutions overstep. That’s not a political position. That’s a human one.”

— **Melanie Williams**

“Healthcare is a human right, full stop. Medicare for All isn’t a radical idea — it’s what every other developed nation figured out decades ago. Omaha’s working families shouldn’t be one medical bill away from bankruptcy.”

— **Melanie Williams**

“My ideas aren’t radical; they are winning races across the country, because these policies are overwhelmingly popular with the voting public.”

— **Melanie Williams**

Media & Press Contact

For interview requests, press credentials, event access, photography, or additional background, contact the campaign directly:

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